



**Date:** April 22, 2005  
**To:** Gerald R. Miller, City Manager  
**From:** Katherine Parsons, Public Information Officer  
**For:** Mayor and Members of the City Council  
**Subject:** City Report For Week Ending April 22, 2005

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The following weekly update highlighting various activities for the week ending April 22, 2005 is provided for your information. I hope you will find this information useful. Please feel free to contact my staff should you have any questions.

**MAJOR WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS**

**Parks, Recreation and Marine, Special Events and Filming Bureau**

The Cambodian New Year Festival, with an estimated attendance of 14,000, took place at the El Dorado Park on April 16.

**Parks, Recreation and Marine, Maintenance Operations Bureau**

The Congressional Cup that took place along the Long Beach coastal waters near the Belmont Veterans Memorial Pier. Marine Maintenance staff assisted.

**Parks, Recreation and Marine, Planning and Development Bureau**

Catalina Express resumed boat service from Catalina Landing after dredging by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers cleared a channel that had been blocked by silt and debris washed down the Los Angeles River by last winter's storms. Dredging of the access channel will continue as Catalina Express vessels are allowed to pass through the area.

**UPCOMING EVENTS AND PROJECTS**

**Public Works, Environmental Services Bureau**

The City's Litter Abatement and Awareness Campaign continues a special series of neighborhood clean-ups on **Saturday, April 23**. The Campaign promotes a litter-free Long Beach, and volunteers are needed to assist at these cleanup events. For information, visit [www.litterfreeLB.org](http://www.litterfreeLB.org) or call 570-2850.

**Health and Human Services**

On **April 25**, Dr. Becky Kuhn and Kimberly Russell will make a presentation on *Youth & Adolescents at Risk for HIV* at the HIV/AIDS at the Women's Caucus meeting to be held at 2525 Grand Avenue. The event, sponsored by the Health Department, A League of Their Own and The C.A.R.E. Program at St. Mary Medical Center, is open to the public. For more information, please contact Mary Vigil at 437-5928.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS AND PROJECTS (continued)**

#### **Parks, Recreation and Marine, Community Recreation Programs Bureau**

On **Saturday, April 23**, from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., the Martin Luther King, Jr. Park Drum Squad will be participating in the Kaleidoscope Festival's - Children's Day Kick-Off, at California State University of Long Beach.

#### **Police**

The Long Beach Police Department will enter two teams in the 21st Annual Baker to Vegas Challenge Cup, a 26-mile Relay consisting of over 200 law enforcement agencies, primarily from California, on **April 23 and 24**. For the last two years, the Police Department has captured first place in the "Mixed" team category. The Department hopes to make a "Three Peat" this year.

#### **Police**

The annual Long Beach K9 Officers' Association Fundraiser will be on **May 7** at the Police Officers Association Park behind Lowe's in the Long Beach Towne Center, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The public is invited to attend and enjoy live music, food, and a K9 demonstration while viewing classic cars from 1973 or earlier that will be on display. Admission is free. Proceeds from participant registration go to support the purchase of Police canines.

#### **City Manager**

The *Enough is Enough* Telethon, **May 12 to 14**, will feature the latest strategies to combat youth and gang violence in Long Beach and a 90-minute interactive town hall meeting. The telethon will be aired live on local Charter Communications Channels 3, 8, 15 and 24. Replays will be aired in the future.

#### **Community Development, Neighborhood Services Bureau**

A *Budgeting 101* Workshop, **Monday, May 16**, will provide an opportunity for residents to learn about the City's budget, budgeting process, and the Three-Year Financial Strategic Plan directly from representatives of the Department of Financial Management. The workshop will be conducted in English with Spanish and Khmer translation. For more information, please contact JoAnn Rojas at 570.1010 or [JoAnn\\_Rojas@longbeach.gov](mailto:JoAnn_Rojas@longbeach.gov).

### **PUBLIC SAFETY**

#### **Fire**

The Fire Department responded to a total of 1,381 emergency calls for service: 93 calls for fires, of which 20 involved structures; and 757 emergency medical calls, of which 531 required paramedics.

#### **Fire**

On April 19, 23 staff members of the Long Beach Convention Center and the Downtown Hilton Hotel completed the 20-hour FEMA Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training program. They received training in fire suppression, disaster first aid, search & rescue techniques, as well as disaster preparedness.

## **PUBLIC SAFETY (continued)**

### **Fire, Community Services Division**

Staff made a presentation on disaster preparedness issues to the Women's Group from the Disabled Resource Center, an advocate for the disabled. Staff provided information and suggestions concerning steps to take to become better prepared in the event of a disaster.

### **Police**

Citywide, police officers responded to 814 priority one, 1,808 priority two, and 11,816 priority three calls for service, for a total of 14,438 for the reporting period. Police officers made 518 arrests, issued 680 citations, and conducted 389 field interviews.

In response to ongoing community concerns and complaints about prostitution, the Vice Detail conducted a prostitution abatement program on April 15. During the operation, undercover male officers arrested 10 females for solicitation and made one felony narcotic arrest.

On April 20, the community crime prevention meeting was held at the Long Beach Water Department. Detectives from the Sex Crimes and Domestic Violence Details provided information regarding sexual assault and domestic violence awareness.

### **Health and Human Services**

Thirty-five staff members from the Long Beach Department of Health and Human Services, California State Department of Health Services and Pasadena Health Department participated in a Disease Investigation training and exercise on April 19. The training covered core functions in epidemiology investigation for communicable diseases and for large-scale public health emergencies to control outbreaks.

## **NEIGHBORHOODS**

### **Community Development, Property Services Bureau**

The City has extended the lease for the Wrigley Community Police Center. The Center is an important resource to the neighborhood for providing area residents with convenient access to the Police Department, facilitating referral of requests and questions to other City departments and providing a location for community meetings.

### **Community Development, Neighborhood Services Bureau**

At the *Meet the Director* series, residents received updated information on the MacArthur Park Branch Library, Family Learning Centers and the Information Center for People with Disabilities from Eleanore Schmidt, Director of Library Services. Residents also shared their concerns and asked about future library funding.

## **NEIGHBORHOODS (continued)**

### **Library Services**

In response to community needs, a new Teen Services Program has been implemented at the Bret Harte Library. The new program will include a youth services librarian; an enhanced materials collection; special programming; targeted outreach to middle schools and high schools in the area; and the establishment of a Teen Advisory Council.

### **Fire**

A Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training program class began on April 18 for Long Beach residents.

### **Parks, Recreation and Marine, Maintenance Operations Bureau**

The Long Beach Junior Golf Association hosted a Junior/Adult Golf Tournament on April 22 at Heartwell Golf Course.

### **Parks, Recreation and Marine, Community Enrichment Programs Bureau**

On April 20, Mural and Cultural Arts Program artist Guillermo Avalos was recognized at McKinley Elementary School. The staff featured a *Meet the Artist* PTA fundraiser by having the children pose with Guillermo in front of the mural he painted at the school. PTA funds are being raised for additional school art and mural projects.

### **Parks, Recreation and Marine, Maintenance Operations Bureau**

Approximately eight tons of trash was removed from El Dorado Regional Park Area II after the Cambodian Festival.

Maintenance Operations staff installed new flag signs at I-710 freeway terminus: two for Chavez Park, one for Trolley Park, and two for Rotary Centennial Park.

### **Parks, Recreation and Marine, Planning and Development Bureau**

ADA irrigation repairs on the ball diamond are in progress at Wardlow Park. New tile have been installed in the freestanding restrooms. New benches have been installed outside the gymnasium entrances at Pan American Park. Concrete has been poured and approximately 3,000 square feet of asphalt have been removed from the parking lot at Marina Vista Park and the parking lot has been patched, slurry sealed and striped, and bumper stops have been installed. Irrigation repairs are continuing at Cherry Park and a new high/low (wheelchair accessible) drinking fountain is being installed at Los Cerritos Park. Site preparation for the water play feature at Burton Chace Park (Market and Dairy) continues.

### **Parks, Recreation and Marine, Community Enrichment Programs Bureau**

On April 20, El Dorado Nature Center staff provided Conservation Corps officials from North Carolina and the Long Beach Conservation Corps executive director, Mike Bassett, a tour of the Center's east restoration area. The Long Beach Conservation Corps helped to plant this area in spring 1999.

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### **NEIGHBORHOODS (continued)**

#### **Parks, Recreation and Marine, Community Recreation Programs Bureau**

During the week of April 16-22, all Long Beach Parks began their first week of youth sports, indoor soccer games. More than 138 teams participated in this activity.

On April 19, 36 Midnight Basketball participants played two games against the Long Beach Fire Department and the Los Angeles League All-Stars at Poly High School.

### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

#### **Community Development, Economic Development Bureau**

The City played host to various economic- and business-related guests at the 31st Annual Toyota Grand Prix of Long Beach on April 9 and April 10. Staff, in coordination with Energy Department staff, provided support to the City's Ocean Club hospitality suite.

Staff participated in a panel presentation at the Annual California Community Colleges Economic and Workforce Development Conference on April 19 held at the Hyatt Conference Center in Irvine. Staff presented information on market responsiveness and its partnership with the Long Beach City College in serving the needs of the small business community.

### **SPECIAL EVENTS**

#### **Parks, Recreation and Marine, Community Enrichment Programs Bureau**

At the weekly board meeting on April 19, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors presented Ellen Calomiris with a scroll in celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Rancho as a public museum.

#### **Library**

The *Save Our Long Beach Libraries* fundraiser, sponsored by Barnes and Noble, raised \$245.00 for the Friends of the Library to purchase new books for City Libraries.

### **OTHER ITEMS OF NOTE**

#### **Energy**

The Gas Services Bureau completed a total of 2,829 service calls. This total included 972 Gas and Water Utility Turn Ons, and 793 Turn Offs. During this period, 891 Customer Service Orders were completed for services that included lighting pilots, adjusting and inspecting appliances, completing fumigation orders, and verifying read orders. A total of 173-meter maintenance and billing related orders were completed. In addition, Gas Control/Dispatch (24/7 operation) received 353 emergency phone calls that resulted in 86 emergency order responses.

GRM: KP: arc

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